

Message Text

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15

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TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, PFOR, PBOR, OAS, BL

SUBJECT: OAS RESOLUTION ON BOLIVIA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL

REF: LA PAZ 5534, SANTIAGO 5440

1. ON AUGUST 5, U.S. DELEGATE JOINED IN UNANIMOUS OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL APPROVAL OF TWO RESOLUTIONS HONORING BOLIVIA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL. BOTH WERE POSTDATED AUGUST 6 TO COINCIDE WITH ANNIVERSARY DATE. GENESIS OF ACTION WAS OASGA RESOLUTION ON MAY 19, 1975, INSTRUCTING THE ORGANIZATION TO OBSERVE THE OCCASION AND TO PREPARE A PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES.

2. ACCORDINGLY, PERMANENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION 156 CONVOKED A SPECIAL PROTOCOLARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL IN HONOR OF BOLIVIA ON AUGUST 6, ASKED CIES TO ORGANIZE A HISTORICAL ESSAY CONTEST ON BOLIVIA'S EMANCIPATION, AND INSTRUCTED
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THE COUNCIL TO DESIGNATE A SPECIAL DELEGATION TO PLACE

AT SOME FUTURE DATE A PLAQUE COMMEMORATING THE SESQUI-CENTENNIAL IN THE HALL OF HONORATSAN FRANCISCO XAVIER UNIVERSITY IN CHUQUISACA.

3. PERMANENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION 157 EMBODIED A SESQUI-CENTENNIAL QUOTE DECLARATION UNQUOTE REGARDING BOLIVIA'S

LANDLOCKED STATUS. THE RESOLUTION TOOK NOTE OF THE QUOTE DECLARATION OF AYACUCHO UNQUOTE OF DECEMBER, 1974; THE JOINT STATEMENT OF PRESIDENTS BANZER AND PINOCHET AT CHARANA IN FEBRUARY, 1975; AND THE JOINT STATEMENT OF THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, PANAMA, AND VENEZUELA, ISSUED IN PANAMA IN MARCH, 1975. ITS OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH DESCRIBED BOLIVIA'S LANDLOCKED CONDITION AS A CAUSE FOR QUOTE CONCERN THROUGHOUT THE HEMISPHERE UNQUOTE AND DECLARED THAT QUOTE ALL THE AMERICAN STATES OFFER TO COOPERATE IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS. UNQUOTE.

4. THE LATTER RESOLUTION WAS INTRODUCED BY BOLIVIA AND CO-SPONSORED BY BARBADOS, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, MEXICO, PANAMA, AND VENEZUELA. THE CHILEAN AND PERUVIAN DELEGATES JOINED THOSE WHO SPOKE IN FAVOR OF THIS RESOLUTION AT THE COUNCIL MEETING. IN ADDITION, THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE UNDERSTANDS THAT THE BOLIVIAN DELEGATE CLEARED THE DECLARATION LANGUAGE WITH THE CHILEAN REPRESENTATIVE BEFORE PRESENTING IT.

5. IN VIEW OF THE MANNER IN WHICH THIS PERMANENT COUNCIL RESOLUTION WAS HANDLED, AS DESCRIBED ABOVE, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE RESOLUTION HAS ANY POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OTHER THAN AS A RE-STATEMENT OF PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN OAS AND OTHER HEMISPHERE FORA ON THIS THEME.

6. DEPARTMENT IS POUCHING TEXT OF BOTH RESOLUTIONS. KISSINGER

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